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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. 80398.P253Total Pages 3First Named Inventor or Application Identifier Brant L. CandeloreExpress Mail Label No. EL 234 215 981 US11-551 U.S. PTO
09/504968
02/15/00

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Washington, D. C. 20231

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. X Fee Transmittal Form
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. X Specification (Total Pages 28)
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive Title of the Invention
 - Cross References to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claims
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
3. X Drawings(s) (35 USC 113) (Total Sheets 4)
4. X Oath or Declaration (Total Pages 5) (Unexecuted)
 - a. Newly Executed (Original or Copy)
 - b. Copy from a Prior Application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for Continuation/Divisional with Box 17 completed) (**Note Box 5 below**)
 - i. DELETIONS OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
6. Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)

09504968-021500

(if applicable, all necessary)

- a. _____

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

8. _____ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & documents(s))

9. _____ a. 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (where there is an assignee)

- X b. Power of Attorney (Unexecuted)

10. _____ English Translation Document (if applicable)

11. _____ a. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449

- b. Copies of IDS Citations

12. _____ Preliminary Amendment

13. X Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)

14. _____ a. Small Entity Statement(s)

- _____ b. Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired

15. _____ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)

16. X Other: Attorney signature page including Copy of postcard and Certificate of Express Mailing pursuant to CFR §1.10.

17. If a **CONTINUING APPLICATION**, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

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Serial/Patent No.: * * Filing/Issue Date: Herewith

Client: Sony Electronics, Inc.

Title: Method and Apparatus For Implementing Revocation In Broadcast Networks

BSTZ File No.: 80398.P253 Atty/Secy Initials: MES/ISS/rd

Date Mailed: 2-15-2000 Docket Due Date: * *

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PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION
FOR
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENTING REVOCATION IN
BROADCAST NETWORKS

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Attorney Docket No.: 080398.P253

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0054968-0250

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENTING REVOCATION IN BROADCAST NETWORKS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. *Field of the Invention*

The present invention relates to digital devices. More specifically, the present invention relates to a copy management system and method for
5 controlling the reproduction and recording of digital content on and from at least one digital device.

2. *General Background*

Analog communication systems are rapidly giving way to their digital counterparts. Digital television is currently scheduled to be available
10 nationally to all consumers by the year 2002 and completely in place by the year 2006. High-definition television (HDTV) broadcasts have already begun in most major cities on a limited basis. Similarly, the explosive growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web have resulted in a correlative growth in the increase of downloadable audio-visual files, such as MP3-formatted audio
15 files, as well as other content.

Simultaneously with, and in part due to, this rapid move to digital communications system, there have been significant advances in digital recording devices. Digital versatile disk (DVD) recorders, digital VHS video cassette recorders (D-VHS VCR), CD-ROM recorders (e.g., CD-R and CD-
20 RW), MP3 recording devices, and hard disk-based recording units are but merely representative of the digital recording devices that are capable of

producing high quality recordings and copies thereof, without the generational degradation (i.e., increased degradation between successive copies) known in the analog counterparts. The combination of movement towards digital communication systems and digital recording devices poses
5 a concern to content providers such as the motion picture and music industries, who desire to prevent the unauthorized and uncontrolled copying of copyrighted, or otherwise protected, material.

In response, there is a movement to require service providers, such as terrestrial broadcast, cable and direct broadcast satellite (DBS)
10 companies, and companies having Internet sites which provide downloadable content, to introduce protection schemes. Two such copy protection systems have been proposed by the 5C group of the Data Hiding Sub Group (DHSB) (5C comprising representatives of Sony, Hitachi, Toshiba, Matsushita, and Intel) and the Data Transmission Discussion
15 Group (DTDG), which are industry committee sub-groups of the Copy Protection Technical Working Group (CPTWG). The CPTWG represents the content providers, computer and consumer electronic product manufacturers.

The DTDG Digital Transmission Copy Protection (DTCP) proposal is
20 targeted for protecting copy-protected digital content, which is transferred between digital devices connected via a digital transmission medium such as an IEEE 1394 serial bus. Device-based, the proposal uses symmetric key cryptographic techniques to encode components of a compliant device.

This allows for the authentication of any digital device prior to the

transmission of the digital content in order to determine whether the device is compliant. The digital content is itself encoded prior to transmission so that unauthorized copying of the content will result in copy having an unintelligible format.

- 5 Thus, even today, the functionality of digital devices such as set-top boxes, digital televisions, digital audio players, and similar such digital devices extends beyond their historical role of conditional access (CA), i.e., merely descrambling content to a CA-clear format for real-time viewing and/or listening, and now include constraints and conditions on the
- 10 recording and playback of such digital content. For example, currently, copying of scrambled content for subsequent descrambling and viewing or listening may be permitted with the appropriate service/content provider authorization or key provided to the digital device.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A method of revoking a descrambling privilege for copy controlled content to a host device is provided. The method includes receiving copy controlled content at a conditional access module. A revocation list is also
5 received at the module. The method includes determining whether the host device associated with the module is on the list. If so, the conditional access module will not descramble the content.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention is illustrated by way of example and not by way of limitation in the figures of the accompanying drawings, in which like references indicate similar elements and in which:

5 Figure 1 is a block diagram of an exemplary entertainment system including one embodiment of a digital device;

 Figure 2 is a block diagram of one embodiment of a digital receiver of the digital device;

 Figure 3 shows an embodiment of an ECM that includes a CRL
10 version number; and

 Figure 4 shows an embodiment of a method of revoking.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Figure 1 is a block diagram of an entertainment system 100 including one embodiment of the copy management system of the present invention. The entertainment system 100 includes a digital device 110 for receiving a

5 digital bitstream including program data from one or more service providers. Such service or content providers can include terrestrial broadcasters, cable operators, direct broadcast satellite (DBS) companies, companies providing content for download via the Internet, or any similar such content and/or service provider. The program data may include system information,

10 entitlement control messages, entitlement management messages, content, and other data, each of which will be described briefly. System information may include information on program names, time of broadcast, source, and a method of retrieval and decoding, and well as copy management commands that provide digital receivers and other devices with information

15 that will control how and when program data may be replayed, retransmitted and/or recorded. These copy management commands may also be transmitted along with entitlement control messages (ECM), which are generally used by the conditional access unit to regulate access to a particular channel or service. Entitlement management messages (EMM)

20 may be used to deliver privileges to the digital receiver 111 such as rights, access parameters, and descrambling keys. As known, a decryption key is generally a code that is required to restore scrambled data, and may be a function of the rights granted. Finally, content in the program data stream

may include audio and video data, which may be in a scrambled or clear format.

The digital device or host may be a device within a group including a set top box, television, video player, video recorder, hard disk player, hard
5 disk recorder, personal computer, memory stick recorder, minidisk player, minidisk recorder, digital video disk (DVD) player, DVD recorder, compact disk (CD) player, and CD recorder.

The digital device or host 110 includes a digital receiver 111, which processes the incoming bitstream, extracts the program data therefrom, and
10 provides the program data in a viewable format. The thus extracted program data is then provided to a decoding unit 112 for further processing, including separation of the system information from the content, as well as decoding, or decompressing, of the content to its original form. The digital receiver 111 also regulates access to the program data by other
15 components on the entertainment system 100, and according to one embodiment of the present invention, supports the simultaneous transmission of program data having content in a descrambled format (hereinafter referred to as "descrambled content") and program data having content in a scrambled format (hereinafter referred to as "scrambled
20 content").

According to one embodiment of the present invention, the digital device 110 is a digital television set where the digital receiver 111 is a set-top box integrated therein, and the decoding unit 112 is an MPEG (Motion Picture Experts Group) decoder. The digital television set's display (not

shown) is, according to this embodiment, integrated within the digital device 110. Alternatively, it will be appreciated that the digital device 110 may include only the digital receiver 111 and/or the decoder unit 112, with a display being external to the decoding device 110. An example of this

5 embodiment would be an integrated receiver/decoder (IRD) such as a stand-alone set-top box which outputs NTSC, PAL or Y_pB_pR signals. All such embodiments are included within the scope of the present invention.

Digital device 110 may be coupled to other components in the entertainment system 100 via a transmission medium 120. The

10 transmission medium 120 operates to transmit control information and data including program data between the digital device 110 and other components in the entertainment system 100. It will be appreciated that the entertainment system 100 of Figure 1 is merely an exemplary embodiment, and that other analog and/or digital components may be added or

15 substituted for the components briefly described hereinafter.

Referring to Figure 1, the entertainment system 100 may include an audio system 130 coupled to the transmission medium 120. The audio system 130 may include speakers and an audio player/recorder such as a compact disc player, a Sony MiniDisc® player, or other magneto-optical disc

20 that may be used to play and/or record audio data. A digital VCR 140, such as a D-VHS VCR, may also be coupled to the digital device 110 and other components of the entertainment system 100 through the transmission medium 120. As known, the digital VCR 140 may be used to record analog or digital audio, video, and other data transmissions, and according to an

embodiment of the present invention, may be used to record program data received by the digital device 110 and transmitted to the digital VCR over transmission medium 120.

A hard disk recording unit 150 may also be coupled to digital device
5 110 and other components via transmission medium 120. The hard disk recording unit 150 may be a personal computer system, a stand-alone hard disk recording unit, or other hard disk recording device capable of recording analog or digital audio, video and data transmissions. As with digital VCR 140, according to one embodiment of the present invention, the hard disk
10 recording unit 150, may be used to record program data received by the digital device 110 and transmitted to the hard disk recording unit 150 over transmission medium 120.

Display 160 may include a high definition television display, a monitor or other device capable of processing digital video signals. In an
15 embodiment where the digital device 110 is a stand-alone set-top box, display 160 may be a digital television set.

Finally, a control unit 170 may be coupled to the transmission medium 120. The control unit 170 may be used to coordinate and control the operation of some or each of the components on the entertainment
20 system 100, as well and other electronic devices remotely coupled thereto.

Figure 2 is a block diagram of one embodiment of the digital receiver 111 including the copy management system according to the present invention. The digital receiver 111 includes a central processing unit (CPU) 210, which controls the overall operation of the digital receiver 111, and

determines the frequency in which a selected channel is broadcast or otherwise transmitted. This information is then transmitted to a tuner 220, which then selects the appropriate frequency of the terrestrial, cable, satellite, or Internet transmission in which to receive the incoming digital

5 bitstream, including program data. The CPU 210 may also support a graphical user interface (GUI), such as an electronic programming guide (EPG), the latter allowing a user to navigate through various channels and program options to select a desired channel or program for viewing, listening, recording and the like. The GUI may be displayed on either a

10 display (not shown) of digital device 110 (e.g., where digital device 110 is a digital television set), or on display 160 (e.g., where digital device 110 is a stand-alone set-top box).

Once the tuner 220 has selected the appropriate frequency, it amplifies the incoming digital bitstream, and provides the output bitstream to

15 a demodulator unit 230. The demodulator unit 230 receives the bitstream from the tuner 220 and demodulates the bitstream to provide program data as originally transmitted. The type of demodulation effected by the demodulator unit 230 will of course depend on the type of transmission as well as the modulation process used in the transmission process. For

20 example, in the case of cable transmissions and Internet transmissions received over cable modems, the demodulator unit 230 may perform quadrature amplitude demodulation (QAD), while for satellite broadcasts, quadrature phase shift key (QPSK) demodulation will likely be required. Terrestrial broadcasts, will likely require vestigial side band (VSB)

demodulation. The present invention is not limited to any one type of transmission and modulation/demodulation scheme, and other schemes are within the scope and spirit of the present invention. In addition to effecting the demodulation process, demodulator unit 230 may also perform error

5 correction on the received bitstream.

The thus demodulated bitstream is now preferably provided to a conditional access unit 240. (That portion of the demodulated bitstream that is not encrypted may bypass the conditional access unit 240 and be provided directly to the demultiplexer 250 as shown by the dashed lines in

10 Figure 2. This might also be the case where none of the bitstream needs decrypting, and/or where there is no conditional access module). The conditional access unit 240 generally performs key management and decryption, as well as descrambling functions as follows.

Typically, if the CPU 210 determines that the program data in the

15 digital bitstream includes scrambled content, that program data is provided to a conditional access unit 240. At this point the CPU 210 may transmit packet identifier (PID) information to the conditional access unit 240, such as PID information informing the conditional access unit 240 where in the program data the ECM may be found. The CPU 210 may instead receive

20 the ECM and deliver it to the conditional access unit 240. Alternatively, the conditional access unit 240 may have demultiplexing capabilities allowing it to directly obtain the location of the ECM from the bitstream itself. As discussed previously, the ECMs regulate a user's access to a particular channel or service, and determines the access rights that are needed to be

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held by a receiver 111 in order to grant access. The ECMs may also be used to deliver a decrypting or descrambling key or to deliver information (e.g., an algorithm) as to how to derive a key that may be used to descramble scrambled content. Using such key or information regarding
5 derivation of such key, the conditional access unit 240 may descramble the content contained in the program data. Alternatively, the conditional access unit may provide the key to the demultiplexer 250 which will perform the descrambling.

Importantly, although the conditional access unit 240 is shown as an
10 integral, or embedded, in that both the descrambling and decrypting functions are effected internally in receiver 111, the conditional access unit may also split or external. An external conditional access unit descrambles the program data content and decrypts the keys externally; e.g., as is the case with the National Renewable Security System (NRSS) conditional
15 access modules. In a split conditional access unit, the program data content is descrambled within the digital receiver 111, while the key decryption is completed externally, e.g., via a "smart card." All of these systems are intended to be within the spirit and scope of the present invention.

Once the conditional access unit 240 descrambles the program data
20 content, the program data is input to demultiplexer unit 250, which separates the system information from the content in the program data. According to an embodiment of the demultiplexer unit 250, the demultiplexer unit 250 parses the program data for PIDs that are associated with system information, audio information, and video information, and then transmits the
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system information to the CPU 210 and the audio and video information to the decoder unit 112. In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, a digital interface unit 260 is coupled to the conditional access unit 240. Operation of this unit, which allows the receiver 111 to communicate with other digital components in the entertainment system 100, will be discussed at a later point.

The CPU 210, tuner 220, demodulator unit 230, conditional access unit 240, demultiplexer unit 250, and digital interface unit 260 may be implemented using any known technique or circuitry. In one embodiment of the present invention, the CPU 210, tuner 220, demodulator unit 230, demultiplexer unit 250, and digital interface unit 260 all reside in a single housing, while the conditional access unit 240 may reside in an external NRSS-A or NRSS-B conditional access module (as discussed above). Alternatively, the conditional access unit can take the form factor of a Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA) Type II card or a smart card or the like. For example, the conditional access unit may take the form of a Point of Deployment (POD) module or an ISO 7816 smart card.

The content of a digital program may be transmitted in scrambled form. In order for a conditional access unit to recover the scrambled content and permit a person to view the content in clear form, the unit must have the necessary access requirements associated with the scrambled content. An access requirement includes a message that describes the features that the conditional access unit must have in order to decode the scrambled content.

The scrambled content may be referred to as "copy controlled content." For example, a certain key may be needed to view the content. Alternatively, a service tag associated with a given content provider may be required.

Technical requirements such as a particular descrambling method may also
5 be required and included as a part of the access requirements. The access requirements associated with a particular program may be transmitted to a conditional access unit along with the program.

Thus, after the host 110 has the access requirements necessary to view a given program content, the host 110 has access to display the
10 content in the clear on display 160 unless that host's access has been revoked. When the host's access has been revoked, the revocation information is sent to a conditional access (CA) unit 240 associated with the host. The revocation information is sent to the CA unit 240 in a certified revocation list (CRL), which may be trickled out over a network. The
15 network may be a home network using a Universal Serial Bus, Blue Tooth, and Panel Link communication mediums. The revocation information includes a list of hosts whose access has been revoked. In one embodiment, the revocation is for the entire service. Alternatively, the revocation may be limited to a specific content provider, such as HBO for
20 example, thus allowing the host to display the content of other channels that have not been revoked.

The revocation list is sent to the CA unit 240 on a well known packet identifier (PID). In a cable network system, the certificate revocation lists may be sent in-band, along with the program content, which allows for

easier time shifting by bitstream recorders. Alternatively, the CRL may be sent to the CA unit in an out of band (OOB) channel, by telephone wires, or by a modem if sent OOB, then it can be delivered to multicast IP addresses. The revocation list can be received and read in real time. Thus, the CRL

5 does not need to be stored, which reduces the overall system memory requirements.

The revocation lists can be divided into lists for different groups of hosts. Multiple lists, where each list corresponds to a different group of hosts, can be sent to the CA units. The CA unit only has to read the list for
10 the corresponding host's group. For example, if the host identifier (ID) is a numeric value, then the range of the host IDs in a given list can be used by the CA unit to quickly determine whether the given list may contain revocation information for the corresponding host. Thus, the CA module can ignore CRLs that have host ID ranges greater than or less than the ID value
15 for the corresponding host of the CA unit.

If the CRL has a range of values that bound the corresponding host's numerical ID value, the CA unit may check the CRL. In one embodiment, the CRL is checked when the CA unit is initially associated with the corresponding host. In another embodiment, the CRL may be checked
20 when a new version of the CRL is sent to the CA unit. The CA module can compare the version number of the received CRL with the version number of the last checked CRL stored in the CA unit's memory. If the received version number is greater than the stored version number, the newly received CRL is read to determine whether the host is on the list.

An embodiment of an ECM that includes the CRL version number is shown in Figure 3. The CRL version information includes the CRL version number and reception time, 310. The ECM may further include the encrypted key 320 for descrambling content, access requirements 330, and
5 an optional signature 340. This ECM allows the CA module to know which CRL version number is the current version number. The CRL itself may be formatted as a data structure. In one embodiment, the CRL is formatted as a private syntax information (PSI) data structure, which is well known in the art. The PSI data structure may also be a MPEG PSI data structure.

10 The information in the CRL may be filtered and read by either the host or the CA unit. The CA module determines whether the host device appears on the list. Also, if the host device has a 1394 digital interface, the host device can use the CRL information to determine whether other devices in the 1394 home network appear on the list. In one embodiment,
15 there may be two lists, where one list is for the CA hosts and 1394 devices, and the other list is for the other devices. The size of the second list would be substantially smaller than the first list, so that it could be stored in the memory of the host and other devices.

If the host for the CA unit is identified in the revocation list, then the
20 CA unit will not decode the scrambled program content for the corresponding host. Whenever a CA unit identifies a host in the CRL, the host is marked as revoked in the internal memory of the CA module. The host may be un-revoked if the host does not appear in a subsequent CRL.

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The CA unit includes a memory that stores the revocation status for a plurality of hosts that the CA unit has been connected to. Also, the CA unit can determine the revocation status of program content that has been stored in scrambled form in a digital memory, such as tape for example. If the version number of the CRL stored on the tape is smaller than the version number in the CA unit's memory, then the CA unit will ignore the revocation information stored on the tape.

Alternatively, the CA unit can speculatively and tentatively descramble the program content for a given period of time before the CA unit receives the revocation list. For example, if the CA unit has not received a CRL for the host, the CA unit can descramble the scrambled content for a given period of time, called a timeout period. The timeout period can be determined at the headend or broadcast station, and sent to the CA unit in an ECM. The timeout period may be long enough for the CA unit to receive the CRL multiple times before the timeout period ends, but short enough so that a pirate may not receive significant portions of the content before the timeout period ends.

The timeout counter, once started, will continue to count down to the end of the timeout period, even if a user changes the content that is descrambled, for example, by changing the channel of the tuner. If the CA unit checks the CRL list for the host during the timeout period and the host is not on the list, then the CA unit may continue to descramble the program content. If the host is on the list, then the CA unit ceases to descramble.

Also, if the timeout period ends before the CA unit checks the CRL, the CA unit stops descrambling the program content.

Figure 4 shows an embodiment of a method of revoking. Scrambled copy controlled content is received at a conditional access module, 410, a
5 revocation list is received at the module, 420. The method includes determining whether the host device is associated with the module is on the list, 430. If so, the method causes the conditional access module to deny the content controlled to the host device, 440. The conditional access module may also not descramble the copy controlled content.

10 While the invention is described in terms of embodiments in a specific system environment, those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the invention can be practiced, with modification, in other and different hardware and software environments within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for controlling access to copy controlled content to a host
2 device comprising:
3 receiving copy controlled content;
4 receiving a revocation list ;
5 determining whether a host device associated with an access
6 module is on the revocation list;
7 if the host device is on the revocation list, causing the associated
8 access module to deny the copy controlled content to the host device.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the revocation list is received in band
2 along with the copy controlled content.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the revocation list is received out of
2 band of the copy controlled content.

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1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the revocation list is MPEG private
2 syntax information data structure.

1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a plurality of
2 revocation lists, where each list corresponds to a given range of host
3 identifiers.

1 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising reading the revocation list
2 having a range of host identifiers that bounds the identifier of the host
3 associated with the access module.

1 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising allowing access to the copy
2 controlled content if the host is not on the revocation list.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the revocation list contains revocation
2 information that is content specific.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the copy controlled content is denied
2 to the host device by not descrambling the copy controlled content.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the host is selected from the group
2 including of a set top box, television, video player, video recorder, hard disk
3 player, hard disk recorder, personal computer, memory stick recorder,

- 4 minidisk player, minidisk recorder, digital video disk (DVD) player, DVD
5 Recorder, compact disk (CD) player and CD recorder.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the revocation list is transmitted to
2 devices could to a home network, the home network using a communication
3 medium from one of the group: 1394, Universal Serial Bus, Blue Tooth, and
4 Panel Link.

1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the access module performs
2 conditional access by not descrambling the copy controlled content for the
3 host device on the revocation list.

1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the access module denies the copy
2 controlled content by not outputting the copy controlled content to the host
3 device on the revocation list.

1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein the access module is selected from
2 the group consisting of an NRSS-A module, NRSS-B module, Point of
3 Deployment (POD) module, and ISO7816 smart card.

1 15. The method of claim 1, further comprising the access module
2 conditionally descrambling the copy controlled content and authenticating a
3 proper revocation list version number.

- 1 16. An apparatus for controlling access to copy controlled content to a
2 host device comprising:
3 means for receiving copy controlled content;
4 means for receiving a revocation list;
5 means for determining whether a host device associated with an
6 access module is on the revocation list;
7 means for causing the access module to deny nt the copy controlled
8 content to the host device if the host device is on the revocation list.
- 1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the revocation list is received by
2 the access unit in band along with the copy controlled content.
- 1 18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the revocation list is received by
2 the access unit out of band of the copy controlled content.
- 1 19. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising means for descrambling
2 the copy controlled content if the host device is not on the revocation list.
- 1 20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the revocation list contains
2 revocation information that is content specific.
- 1 21. An apparatus for controlling access to copy controlled content to a
2 host device comprising:

3 an access module configured to receive copy controlled content and
4 a revocation list;
5 a determiner configured to determine whether a host device
6 associated with the access module is on the revocation list;
7 a revoker configured to deny the copy controlled content to the host
8 device if the host device is on the revocation list.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the revocation list is received in
2 band with the copy controlled content.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the revocation list is received out
2 of band to the copy controlled content.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the revocation list is a MPEG
2 private syntax information structure.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 21, the access device further configured to
2 receive a plurality of revocation lists, where each list corresponds to a given
3 range of host identifiers.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the determiner is further
2 configured to read the revocation list having a range of host identifiers that
3 bounds the identifier of the host associated with the access unit.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the access device is further
2 configured to allow access to the copy controlled content if the host is not on
3 the revocation list.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the revocation list contains
2 revocation information that is content specific.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the copy controlled content is
2 denied to the host device by not descrambling the copy controlled content.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the host is selected from the
2 group consisting of a set top box, television, video player, video recorder,
3 hard disk player, hard disk recorder, personal computer, memory stick
4 recorder, minidisk player, minidisk recorder, digital video disk (DVD) player,
5 DVD Recorder, compact disk (CD) player and CD recorder.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the access module is selected
2 from the group consisting of an NRSS-A module, NRSS-B module, Point of
3 Deployment (POD) module, and ISO7816 smart card.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the access module conditionally
2 descrambles the copy controlled content and authenticates a proper
3 revocation list version number.

1 33. A computer readable medium containing instructions, which when
 2 executed by a processing system, which when executed by a processing
 3 system perform a method for controlling access to copy controlled content to
 4 a host device comprising receiving copy controlled content;
 5 receiving a revocation list ;
 6 determining whether a host device associated with an access
 7 module is on the revocation list;
 8 if the host device is on the revocation list, causing the associated
 9 access module to deny the copy controlled content to the host device.

1 34. The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the revocation
 2 list is received in band along with the copy controlled content.

1 35. The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the revocation
 2 list is received out of band of the copy controlled content.

1 36. The computer readable medium of claim 33, said method further
 2 comprising receiving a plurality of revocation lists, where each list
 3 corresponds to a given range of host identifiers.

1 37. The computer readable medium of claim 33, wherein the copy
 2 controlled content is denied to the host device by not descrambling the copy
 3 controlled content.

- 1 38. The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 33, wherein the
- 2 copy controlled content is not output to the host device if the host device is
- 3 on the revocation list.

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ABSTRACT

A method of revoking a descrambling privilege for copy controlled content to a host device is provided. The method includes receiving copy controlled content at a conditional access module. A revocation list is also
5 received at the module. The method includes determining whether the host device associated with the module is on the list. If so, the conditional access module will not descramble the content.

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005720 8964050

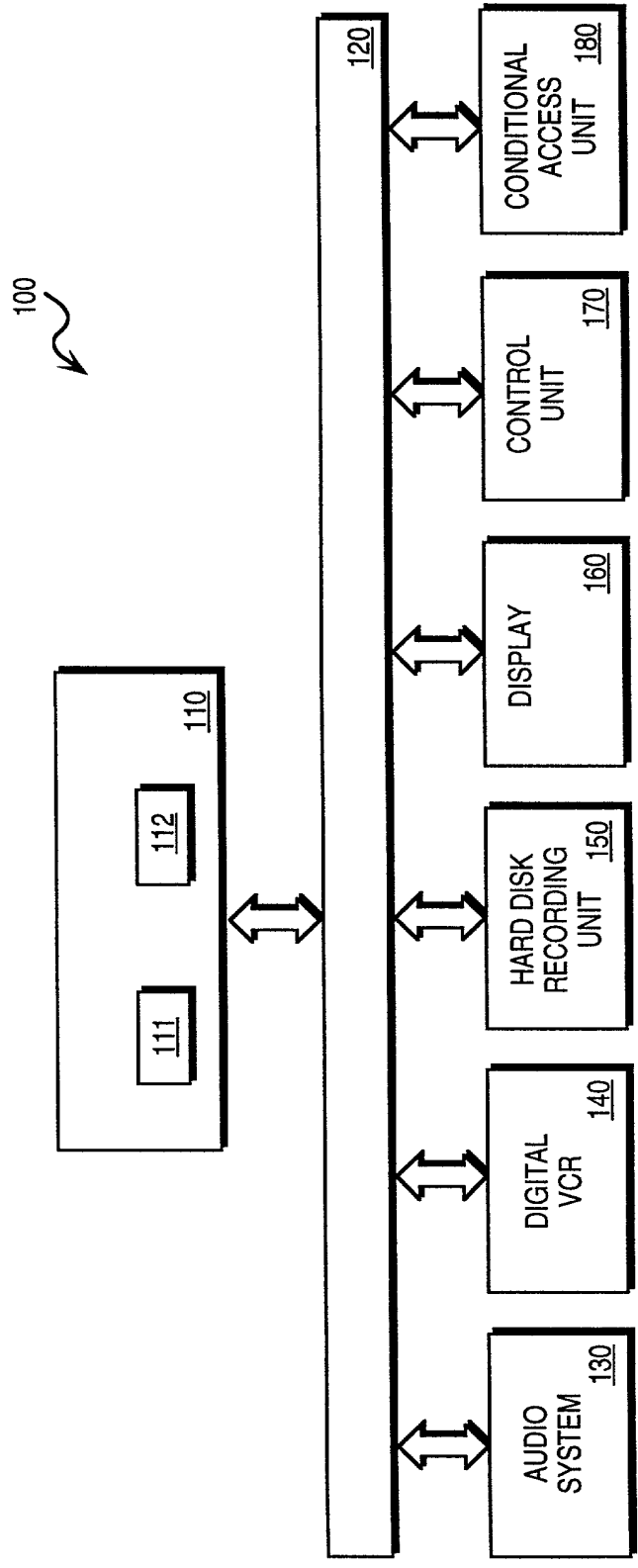


FIG. 1

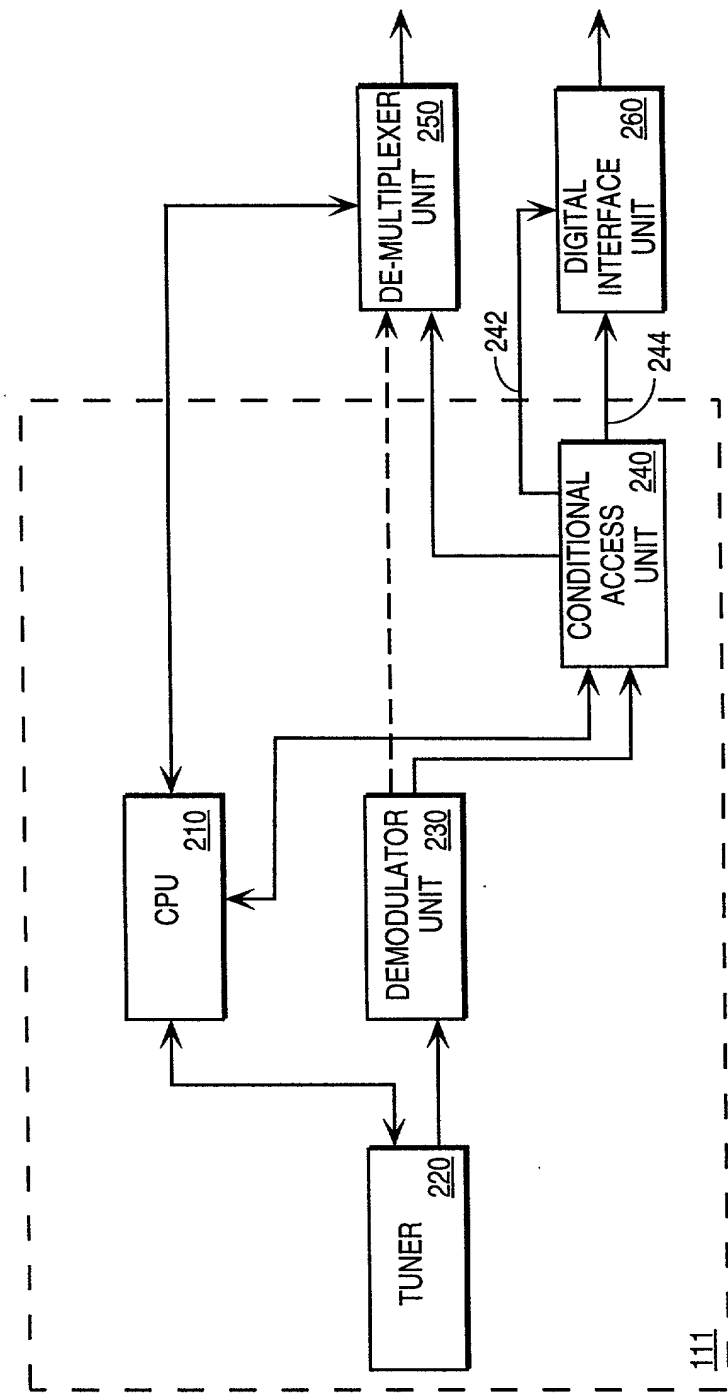


FIG. 2

General Format of CA Entitlement Control Messages (ECMs):

New Information



CRL Version #, RL Reception Time, CGMS	Encrypted Key	Access Requirements	Signature
310	320	330	340

FIGURE 3

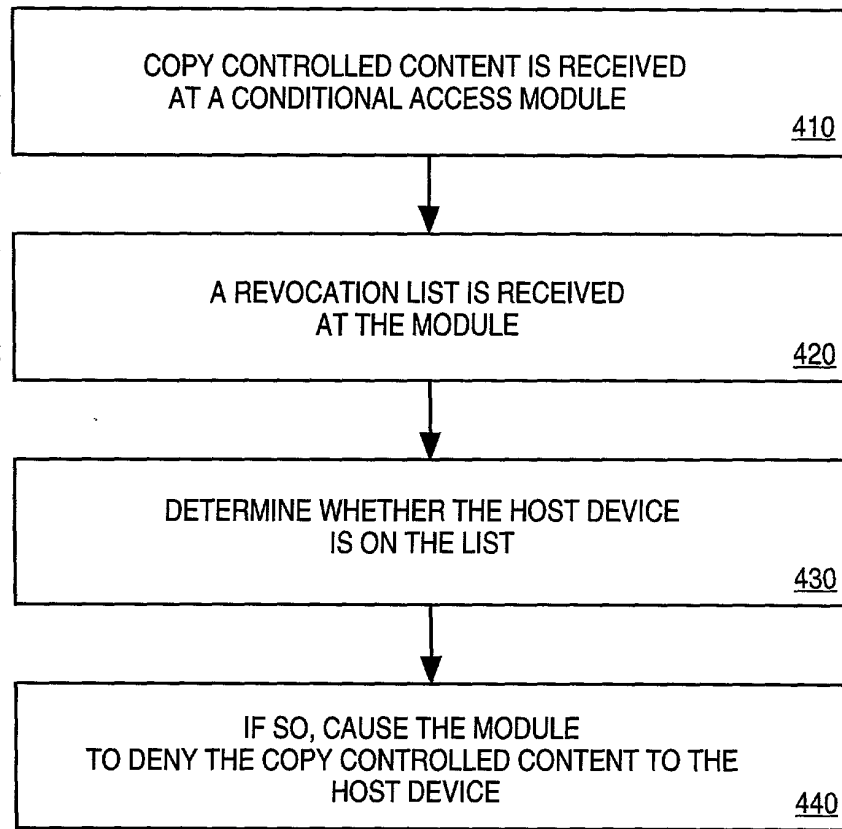


FIG. 4

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

the specification of which

[illegible]

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority
Claimed

Rev. 02/07/00 (D1)

I hereby claim the benefit under title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

_____	_____
(Application Number)	Filing Date
_____	_____
(Application Number)	Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

_____	_____	_____
(Application Number)	Filing Date	(Status -- patented, pending, abandoned)
_____	_____	_____
(Application Number)	Filing Date	(Status -- patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the persons listed on Appendix A hereto (which is incorporated by reference and a part of this document) as my respective patent attorneys and patent agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith.

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(Name of Attorney or Agent)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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APPENDIX B

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 Duty to Disclose Information Material to Patentability

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclosure information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
 - (2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
 - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.